



MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: February 13, 2020

Agenda Item: 2020-2021 Biennial Quota Ranges

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 Minutes

Background: FWP is seeking commission approval for the 2020-2021 quota ranges for limited entry licenses and permits. These quota ranges are adopted by the commission biennially during the regular season-setting cycle. FWP does not need commission approval to make changes to license/permit quotas that are within the adopted range. Changes outside adopted ranges require commission approval. This greatly expedites and simplifies annual quota adjustments. These quotas represent authority and limits to the number of licenses/permits that may be offered by FWP. Biologists often make final within-range quota adjustments after scheduled commission meetings but before licenses and permits are drawn. For example, biologists do not complete antelope surveys until mid to late July and sometimes wish to adjust license numbers based on their findings but need to do so before licenses are drawn in early August.

Most of the licenses and permits for which there are quota ranges are proposed to remain unchanged from 2019. Any proposed quota range changes are identified in specific proposals within that species' agenda item.

Public Involvement Process & Results: Public comment was taken from Dec. 5 to Jan. 27 and forwarded to commissioners and FWP staff for their consideration.

Alternatives and Analysis: Proposals may be adopted as proposed, with adjustment, with additions, with deletions, or no change from 2019 (status quo). No change would challenge the supporting justifications behind proposals.

Proposed Motion: I move that the Fish and Wildlife Commission adopt as final those 2020-2021 quota ranges proposed to remain unchanged from 2019. Proposed changes to specific quota ranges are identified in specific proposals within that species' agenda item.